

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**For Participation in 3-day Training to Design for Open Data Impact**

***The*** [***Data for Development Program***](http://d4dnepal.org/) ***invites applications from Nepali groups running Open Data initiatives to develop their skills in designing for impact.***

The “Data for Development in Nepal” (aka D4D) Program works to improve the sharing and use of open data as evidence for development. As part of this the D4D Program is offering a select cohort of organisations the opportunity to train with the world renown [Sunlight Foundation](https://sunlightfoundation.com/) and learn how to grow the impact of their open data initiatives. The 3-day training will take place in Kathmandu from **Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th April 2019** (venue tbc)

**The ‘Designing for Open Data Impact’ Course**

The D4D Program have invited international experts from the Washington DC-based Sunlight Foundation to provide a 3-day training course in Kathmandu followed by individual support clinics. The goal is to help organizations operating data portals to become better intermediaries by improving the design, implementation, and facilitation of data use among stakeholders, leading to greater adoption and use by the community. This process will include extensive instruction on community engagement at every step of the process. Fourteen participants will be selected to learn international-best practice in designing for open data impact.

The training will include interactive sessions to guide participants on how to analyse demand signals for open data and conduct user research (including via user personas and journey mapping). Participants will learn specific strategies for co-designing and implementing open data improvements by working closely with community members to increase user adoption and see more impactful applications of open data. The training will also include discussion around working with governments and tactics for helping to convince government officials of the benefit of open data.

Following the training, participants will be offered customised advice by Sunlight Foundation to support their planning for short and long-term open data development priorities. This will involve in-person meetings and online discussions where prototypes, design/implementation plans and community engagement strategies can be discussed.

**Funding to support implementation of lesson**

Following the training, participants will be offered the opportunity to apply for small grants to support the implementation of activities that grow the impact potential of their open data initiatives.

**Invited Applicants and Selection Process**

Partner organisations of the D4D Program are invited to put forward candidates for the course. Applications are also accepted from other invited organisations that run open data initiatives, but who have not formally partnered with the D4D Program.

Participants are expected to be fully committed to harnessing the broader opportunity offered by this training and implement the learning in the current and future open data initiatives. Due to the nature of the course, participants will need to have strong verbal and written English skills and have a good understanding of open data. Participants will need to commit to attending the full three day course in its entirety (3rd to 5th April) including being on time for all sessions. Before the training all participants will be required to have a short preparatory phone call with the Sunlight Foundation.

The course is suited for:

* Those who are currently running or planning an open data initiative and want to learn techniques that can improve their impact.
* Those operating at a senior position who are able to apply the learning through the organisation and take decisions to guide organisational activities and approaches.
* Those who have the time and commitment to attend the full three day timeframe of the course and implement lessons learned.

The course is not suited for:

* People who already have detailed knowledge of designing for open data impact.
* People who will not be able to commit to implement their learning beyond the course.
* Team members who do not hold the position to use their learning to influence change.

Applicants are invited to complete the application form. Applications will be assessed by the D4D Program and a suitable cohort will be selected for interview. Following interview, the final cohort will be selected that brings together a balanced, supportive, ambitious and inclusive group. Although any number of individuals may be put forwards by any one organisation, a maximum of two per organisation may be selected.

The deadline for applications is **15th March 2019.**

**Timeframe**

* Call for applications released – 11th March 2019
* Deadline for application submission – 15th March 2019
* Review of applications – 18th to 19th March
* Interviews -19th to 20th March
* Successful applicants will be informed by – 21nd March
* Pre-course interviews – 25th to 28th March
* Training Course – 3rd to 5th April inclusive (venue TBC)
* Individual support clinics (1 hr long) – 7th – 8th April

### About the Data for Development Program

The **Data for Development in Nepal (D4D) Program** is being managed by The [Asia Foundation](https://asiafoundation.org/) and [Development Initiatives](http://devinit.org/) with funding from UK Aid. The D4D Program aims to improve the sharing and use of data to inform decision-making, implementation and monitoring of development efforts. The D4D Program has a specific focus on promoting **open data** as a tool for supporting evidence-based development. Through the D4D Program, the Asia Foundation and Development Initiatives want to contribute to the increased demand, supply and use of open data by government, civil society, and the private sector. For more information please visit <http://www.d4dnepal.org/>

**About the Sunlight Foundation**

The Sunlight Foundation is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, based in Washington DC, that works to make government and politics more accountable and transparent to all. Their vision is for technology to enable more complete, equitable and effective democratic participation. They have worked with thousands of software developers, local transparency activists, bloggers, citizens, advocates, librarians, academics and journalists, involving them in distributed research projects, hackathons, and training. Over the past decade, they have served more than 4.2 billion API calls, indicating how much the data they liberated was needed. Their reporting has been cited by the world’s preeminent journalists, their research has led to congressional hearings, and they were part of a coalition that passed historic reforms to the US Freedom of Information Act and DATA. Around the world, from cities to states to nations, The Sunlight Foundation is standing up for public information that’s open and accessible to the public. For more information please visit https://sunlightfoundation.com/

**Application form:**

Please complete this form and return it in word format to D4DNepal@gmail.com by 5pm Friday 15th March, 2019.

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| --- |
| **PERSONAL INFORMATION** |
| Name |  |
| Date of Birth |  |
| Gender |  |
| Telephone Number |  |
| Email Address |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Role at Organisation |  |
| Length of time at Organisation |  |
| Highest Academic Qualification (name & provider) |  |
| English Proficiency - spoken |  |
| English Proficiency - written |  |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Commitments** | **Yes** |  **No** |
| **If selected, do you commit to undertaking the pre-course interview?** |  |  |
| **If selected, do you commit to attending the full 3 days of the course between 3rd and 5th April and being on time for all sessions?** |  |  |
| **If selected, do you commit to incorporating the lessons from the training into your open data initiatives?** |  |  |

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| Personal Statement – tell us why you should be accepted for this opportunity (maximum 500 words). Please include details here of:* What your interest is in this training and what you would use it for?
* Any other information which makes you a good candidate for this course and demonstrates your commitment to the opportunity being offered?
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